



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

OWI-162

For Immediate Release

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, who has just been named Fishery Coordinator by President Roosevelt, today announced that immediate steps will be taken to carry out the program for development and maintenance of sustained production of aquatic food supplies essential to the conduct of the war.

As a preliminary step in the organization of the Office of Fishery Coordination, letters have been transmitted to all Federal agencies affected by the President's order, requesting the designation of a liaison officer to participate in the program.

Established by the President's order to insure maximum efficiency in the Nation's war food program, the Office of Fishery Coordination is authorized to maintain close liaison with appropriate Federal, interstate, and local agencies, and with fishery and allied industries, in the assembling of information relative to the conservation, production, processing, packing, transportation, marketing, and consumption of fish and other fishery products. Information relative to the construction, procurement, conversion, substitution, replacement and repair of fishery industry facilities, also will be assembled by the Fishery Coordinator's Office.

Maintaining an overall supervision over the aquatic food supply, Fishery Coordinator Ickes also is empowered by the President's order to make specific recommendations to Federal and other governmental agencies and the affected industries to insure maximum coordination of effort in the utilization of their services and facilities and to deal with problems involving supply, allocation, and procurement of equipment required by the fishery industry.